

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2002-145095 (JP '095) in view of JP 2003-14450 (JP '450). The Examiner indicates that claims 3-5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, it is noted claim 3 is in independent form and claims 4 and 5 depend from claim 3. Thus, claims 3-5 should be allowed.

By way of this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 6 to more particularly claim the invention. It is submitted that the claims 1 and 6 patentably distinguish over JP '095 and JP '450.

Although the references disclose a calculation of the speed of the left and right front and rear wheel pairs, they do not disclose or suggests a comparison of a first value obtained by a first predetermined formula based on rotation velocities (speeds) of left and right 2-wheels on front or rear with a second value obtained by a second predetermined formula based on rotation velocities (speeds) of front and rear 2-wheels on right or left, as now recited in claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 1 and 6 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Brian W. Hannon/

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Brian W. Hannon
Registration No. 32,778

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